

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 to 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Nguyen et al. (US 6,983,232) in further view of Herman (US 2001/0034592).

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended.

Claim 4 has been canceled.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 103 Rejections

Claims 1 to 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Nguyen et al. (US 6,983,232) in further view of Herman (US 2001/0034592).

Nguyen et al. describes a customer benefit tool which allows customer models to be validated under acceptance test conditions to ensure that the machine based processes and cycle times have been accurately modeled. Col. 2, lines 51 to 54. A user proposed a configuration for an assembly line by selecting objects that represent assembly line equipment, the objects having specific values for operating characteristics. "The configuration and associated operating characteristic values are then used to build a discrete event simulation." Col. 3, lines 9 to 10.

In the embodiments discussed in the office action, "building a discrete event simulation requires creating detailed simulation objects. To streamline the building of a simulation by selecting and arranging the simulation objects, templates may be created and values may be read into the template to create the simulation object." Office Action at page 3 or Nguyen Col. 3, lines 14-18. These simulation objects can also be formed using designer objects and templates, as noted in column 5, line 56 to column 6, line 1.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a method for simulating process flows in the graphics industry and for displaying the result calculated in the simulated process flows and/or intermediate results, comprising the steps of:

- inputting or selecting at least one order data set representing a print job;
- inputting or selecting at least one process data set representing a machine;
- calculating links between the order data set and the process data set as a function of the order data set and the process data set;
- creating a process flow from the calculated links;
- calculating a result or intermediate results for the process flow using the order data set;

and

outputting the result or intermediate results.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite a device for simulating process flows in the graphics industry and for displaying the result calculated in the simulated process flows or intermediate results on a display device, comprising:

at least one user interface for inputting or selecting at least one order data set representing a print job;

at least one user interface for inputting or outputting at least one process data set representing a machine;

at least one device suitable for calculating links between order data set and process data set as a function of the order data set and the process data set;

at least one device suitable for creating a process flow from the calculated links;

at least one device suitable for calculating the result or intermediate results for the process flow using the order data set; and

at least one display or output device for displaying or outputting the results or intermediate results.

Support for both amendments can be found in the specification [0011], for example. The method and device according to claims 1 and 12 offer the opportunity to the user of a fully automated simulation of a print shop.

There is no teaching or disclosure in Nguyen of "order data sets representing a print job" as now claimed in claim 1. The acceptance test in Nguyen clearly is not an order data sets representing a print job. The Nguyen acceptance test is merely a check on the modeling.

In addition it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to have combined Herman and Nguyen. There is absolutely no reason or motivation to substitute any Herman teachings for the acceptance test of Nguyen.

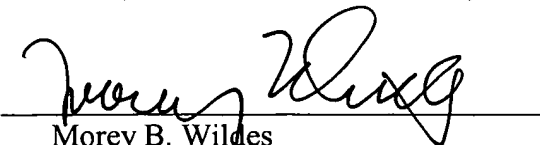
Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 to 10 and 12 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
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